

# Society News- September 2009

## **2nd Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Conference**

### **“Bridging Research to Clinic”**

**John Kane, M.D.**

Make plans to be in Florence, Italy, 10 – 14 April 2010 for the 2nd Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Conference. Be a part of the conference that brings the world’s top professionals and latest science in schizophrenia research together for five days in one of the most beautiful, historic and culturally rich cities in the world.

Our website, [www.schizophreniaconference.org](http://www.schizophreniaconference.org) provides a wealth of information regarding the conference. Registration, hotel and travel reservations are now available on the conference website. Updates are posted to keep our members and conference attendees informed of the latest developments. SIRS is also available on Facebook. [Click here](#) to connect with Facebook, and type in “Schizophrenia Research” to connect to the SIRS page.

Be an active part of the science at this meeting by submitting an abstract for the conference. The deadline for symposia abstracts has been extended due to holiday schedules. The deadline for symposia submission is now Monday, 14 September 2009. Abstract submissions for oral and poster presentations will be accepted until 1 December 2009. [Click here](#) to submit an abstract, or view the submission guidelines and categories.

### **Hotel and Travel Information**

Conference registration, hotel and travel reservations are now available on the conference website. [Click here](#) to connect with the Registration and Housing site. We have contracted with many hotels in Florence to accommodate the needs of all conference attendees. There is a broad range of hotel room rates available to fit everyone’s budget. Most of the hotels offered are within walking distance to the congress center. The congress center is just a few meters from the Santa Maria Novella central railway station and a short walk from the many of Florence’s great monuments.

SIRS is working with Caldwell Travel this year to assist conference attendees in making travel arrangements. Caldwell Travel has secured discounted airfares on Lufthansa, Delta and American Airlines. The travel professionals at Caldwell are experienced, and available to help our conference attendees make travel arrangements to and from Florence. [Click here](#) to connect to the Caldwell Travel website.

## **2nd Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Conference Tentative Schedule of Events**

### **Saturday, 10 April 2010**

11:00am – 6:30pm - Registration Open  
3:00pm – 5:00pm – Ethics Symposium & Meeting Orientation – for Travel Awardees  
5:00pm – 6:30pm – Keynote – Elyn Saks  
6:30pm – 8:30pm – Welcome Reception

### **Sunday, 11 April 2010**

8:00am – 7:00pm – Registration Open  
8:30am – 12:00pm – Clinical Plenary  
12:00pm – 1:00pm – Membership Meeting  
12:00pm – 1:30pm – Lunch Break  
1:30pm – 3:00pm – Gene Expression & Animal Models Session  
1:30pm – 3:00pm – Psychosocial Session  
3:30pm – 5:30pm – Symposia Sessions  
5:30pm – 7:30pm – Poster Session

### **Monday, 12 April 2010**

8:00am – 7:00pm – Registration Open  
8:30am – 12:00pm – Genetics Plenary  
12:00pm – 1:30pm – Lunch  
1:30pm – 3:30pm – Symposia Sessions  
3:30pm – 5:30pm – Symposia Sessions  
5:30pm – 7:30pm – Poster Session

### **Tuesday, 13 April 2010**

8:00 am – 7:00pm – Registration Open  
8:30am – 12:00pm – Imaging Plenary  
10:00am – 10:15am – Coffee Break  
12:00pm – 1:30pm – Lunch  
1:30pm – 3:30pm – Oral Presentations  
3:30pm – 5:30pm – Symposia Sessions  
5:30pm – 7:30pm – Poster Session

### **Wednesday, 14 April 2010**

8:00am – 4:00pm – Registration Open  
8:30am – 10:30am – Symposia Sessions  
10:30am – 12:30pm - Symposia Sessions  
12:30pm – 2:00pm – Lunch  
2:00pm – 4:00pm – Symposia Sessions  
4:00pm – 5:00pm – Summary Panel Discussion

## ***2nd Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Conference***

### **Featured Speakers**

**Keynote Address:** Prof. Elyn R. Saks, author *The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey Through Madness*

**Plenary Session – Clinical** Will Carpenter, M.D.

**PreClinical** Bitu Moghaddam, M.D., Ph.D.

**Plenary Session – Genetics** Michael Owen, Ph.D.

**Plenary Session – Imaging** Daniel Weinberger, M.D.

### **Membership information**

Take advantage of reduced conference registration fees to the 2nd Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Conference by joining SIRS or renewing your existing membership today. To join as a 2009 SIRS member, [click here](#). If you were a 2008 member but haven't renewed for 2009, [click here](#) and log-in. Your email address is your username and passwords were emailed all 2008 and 2009 members in August. If you can not access your password, click the "forgot your password" link and a new one will be sent to you via email. 2010 dues notices will be sent to 2009 members later this year. The most significant conference registration discount will be given to members for the 2009 and 2010 years. Don't wait to join or renew today.

Membership in the Schizophrenia Research Society affords you:

- Electronic subscription for *Schizophrenia Bulletin* and *Schizophrenia Research*
- Access to the Members' Only portion of the SIRS website
- Reduced Registration Fees for Society Sponsored Congresses
- Committee Membership Opportunities
- Quarterly Newsletters

Membership in SIRS is limited to those who have a professional interest in research relevant to schizophrenia. Student/Trainee memberships are available for individuals at any level of training. A Curriculum Vitae is required with the membership application. If applying for student membership, a letter from a supervisor verifying student status or other documentation is needed.

### **Nominations and Election for Officers and Board** **Jim van Os, Ph.D., Chair, Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee is developing the slate for Officer and Board member elections. The slate will be determined from nominations submitted by the Society's membership. The Executive Office will email the slate of Officers and Board Members to the membership later this fall. Members will have four weeks to cast an anonymous vote.

There will be no more than three names on the ballot for each Officer position. Per the Society Bylaws, only past Officers, Board Members and members of the International Advisory Committee are eligible to

serve as Officers. The slate for Board members will contain between 16 and 24 names, and Board positions are open to any SIRS member. Newly elected Officers and Board Members will officially take office next April at the Schizophrenia International Research Conference in Florence.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, thank you for your support and nominations as we continue to grow the Society.

**Nominating Committee:**

Jim van Os, Ph.D.  
Will Carpenter, M.D.  
Steve Marder, M.D.  
John McGrath, M.D., Ph.D.  
Chris Pantelis, M.D., MRCPsych, FRANZCP

**SIRS Website Update**

Schizophrenia International Research Society is pleased to announce an addition of a members' only page to the Society website. Amendments made allow SIRS members to renew their membership and pay annual dues on-line, update their member profile, and conduct a member search through the directory.

An email was sent in August to all SIRS members announcing the update, and included instructions to log-on to the site with your username and request for members to reset their password. The username will be your email address. New passwords can easily be created by clicking on the "Forgot Password" button. An email will be sent immediately allowing you to create and confirm a new password that you can remember.

Members who have not yet paid 2009 society dues are encouraged to log-on and do so. Your membership will afford you reduced registration fees to the upcoming SIRS 2010 Conference, 10 – 14 April, in Florence, Italy, as well as subscriptions to *Schizophrenia Research* and *Schizophrenia Bulletin*.

<b>Deadlines to Remember</b>	
<b>14 September 2009</b>	Symposia Abstract Submission Deadline
<b>5 October 2009</b>	Membership for 2010 Opens (Join as a new member or renew)
<b>1 December 2009</b>	Oral Presentation Submission Deadline Poster Presentation Submission Deadline
<b>30 December 2009</b>	Deadline to renew 2009 Membership for Conference Registration Discount
<b>11 March 2010</b>	Meeting Pre-Registration fees increase 50.00€